

May 27, 2020

## **TAHLTAN NATION COVID-19 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

### **Seabridge Gold Update**

During this unprecedented time as part of our social commitment, Seabridge Gold is proud to be supporting the three Tahltan Communities – Dease Lake, Iskut and Telegraph Creek – in their fight against COVID-19.

### **Dease Lake Update**

The Dease Lake Emergency Management Committee continues to meet weekly as we know this pandemic is far from over.

The People's Haven is arranging a community cleanup this coming Sunday and we encourage everyone to participate. Super A gift cards, for the month of June, will be sent out to the community next week.

The weather is nice now and we see increased movement within our Territory as well as an increase in residents travelling to locations outside of Tahltan Territory. Please remember that the more places you go and the more people you meet your risk of contracting COVID-19 increases. We continue to ask you to refrain from non-essential travel outside of the Territory and if you must travel then we require you to self-isolate for 14 days upon your return.

If you have a mask, please wear it when you go into public spaces within our community. If you do not have a mask and would like to wear one, please contact the Haven to arrange to pick one up. Please be responsible in your decision-making process and remember we are all in this together.

### **Iskut Update**

Iskut is in the process of planning our next steps for our gate security and new guidelines.

The Iskut community garden has the ground leveled and the next steps in place for the fencing and a small greenhouse. We are happy to get something started this year and to keep adding onto it every year.

Our Kluachon Store will be starting summer hours June 1<sup>st</sup> and will be open to the public for fuel. We ask that you do not enter the store and the store will have employees assisting you with making your payment.

The café will also be open for orders but like the store we ask that you pay at the door and do not enter. Our hours will be changed to 8 am to 8pm.

## **Telegraph Creek**

We continue to update community with the most recent education regarding COVID-19. This is an extremely crucial time to continue with the safety measures of the past months to prevent our risk of a second wave and being sick with COVID-19.

***Stay home if possible***

***Wash your hands***

***Take everyday precautions to keep space between yourself & others***

***Keep away from people who are sick***

***Clean & disinfect***

Social programs continually provide activities for our community. This week we have an amazing Toy Bingo going for the children, which every child playing will receive a toy. Flowerpots were planted with children and sent home to take care of through the summer. The last of the food hampers were distributed, therefore all households in our community have received a hamper. Goody packages went out to our Elders along with an information package for their safety. Home-made masks are continually being made and distributed. If you require one, please call the Rec Center at 250-235-3100.

MST (Mobile Support Team) provides mental health support for our three communities. They have been providing virtual, phone, Facetime, and email services to our communities during COVID-19. They have an MSTCOVID-19 ONSITE POLICY and will be scheduling back in community when safe to return.

Our Nursing staff put out a poster regarding “Symptoms for 24 hours or More”, to assist our community members with symptoms of COVID-19, and follow up with the nursing staff, as they may be eligible for a COVID-19 screening test.

Important Reminder: Only Patient Travel emergencies are being processed at this time.

Our community garden is fully planted, as well as the flowers around the Elders center and the nursing station. Thank you to all staff and community members who contributed. The tomatoes in the greenhouse are also thriving; we will be picking tomatoes by mid-July.

We will be re-opening our gym next week with limited hours and a protocol in place. Our Rec Center staff will be there 9am-4pm and 7pm-9pm.

Community wood cutting will continue until all the 10 loads of wood have been distributed to households. 30-mile Men’s Camp is being completed with the painting of the two cabins and the spreading of the gravel to the road and within the camp.

Please call Sheila at the Band office, 250-235-3151 to inform her of your travel plans outside our community/Territory. Your participation is appreciated as this will increase our safety and help track contact of COVID-19 if we should have a case in Telegraph Creek.

Our Nation recommends only emergency travel outside the territory. Please be mindful as you re-enter the community upon your return from out of Territory. Regular handwashing, physical distancing and staying home if feeling unwell at all are the most effective ways of limiting the spread of the virus!

## **EVENT CANCELLATIONS**

Tahltan Leadership would like to announce the following cancellations due to COVID-19:

### **May:**

Healthy Active Tahltan School Events – Dease Lake, Iskut and Telegraph Creek

Iskut Baby Welcoming

TCG Update Meetings

### **June:**

Tahltan Band Chief and Council Election Postponed until end of November

June 21: National Indigenous Peoples Day

June 22: Tour de Telegraph

School and Headstart Sports/Awards/Grad Day

TCG Update Meetings

### **July:**

Dease Lake Fishing Derby

Iskut Music Festival

Iskut Literacy Camp

Glenora Literacy Camp

Telegraph Creek Grad

### **August:**

Tahltan Music Fest

Iskut Cultural Camp Kawdy

### **October:**

110<sup>th</sup> Declaration Celebration

ENDS